

Dynamic Panel Data Analysis of the Impact of Climatic Shocks on Food-security

Zouhaier Hadhek^{*,1} and Sawssen Nafti², Fatma Mrad² and Mosbah Lafi³

¹University of Gabès Higher Institute of Management of Gabès.

²Faculty of Economics and Management of Sousse.

³University of Gabès Higher Institute of Management of Gabès

Abstract: The present work attempts to address the problem of promoting sustainable food safety in a world constrained by land, water and energy. Firstly, by analyzing the impact of economic growth on FS. Then via the determination of the impact of CC on FS. Finally through the analysis of the relationship between the economic growth and CO2 emissions for developing countries with different samples and different empirical studies.

Keywords : Food safety- economic growth - CC - CO2 Emission.

JEL Classification: Q18- O4- Q54- F1

1. INTRODUCTION

It is known that the greenhouse gases are continuously heating up the surface of the planet (Intergovernmental Panel on CC IPCC, 2007). This, in turn, leads to future hot climates and causes changes in rainfall patterns, which have serious negative effects on both developed and developing countries (IPCC, 2007). Forecasts, published by the US National Center for Atmospheric Research, expectations show that the precipitation downward trend will continue until 2050. In particular, South Africa will be 10 to 20% drier than the last 50 years (Mitchell and Tanner, 2006). On the other hand, it is known that these climatic changes (CC) are affecting agricultural productivity, the FS and other sectors across spatial and temporal scales. In the tropics, particularly in Africa, the CC are expected to be damaging the agricultural livelihoods (Dinar et al., 2008, Dixon et al., 2001). According to the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD, 2009), the CC are coinciding with the increasing demand for food, feed, fiber and fuel. This has a potential to irreversibly damage the base of the natural resources while the agriculture is depending on those latter. As a result, the CC has important consequences on the FS (FS).

Nowadays, the study of the impact of the climatic changes and their consequences on the FS is crucial in order to protect the future of humanity. In fact, the FS can be defined as a situation in which human can get a physical, social and economic access to sufficient, nutritious and healthy nourishment. This leads to satisfy their alimentary needs and preferences. Several authors have reported the measurement of the effect of variables attributed to the climatic changes, but using static panel models and/or classical simulation techniques. However, it should be noticed that the most of these

studies are in a microeconomic scale for example, in Kenya, Kabubo-Mariara and Kabara (2015) estimated the effects of climate change on food insecurity for the period (1975-2012). In Tunisia, Ben Zaied and Zouabi (2015) estimated the long run impact of climate variability on olive crop in Tunisia, using data for 24 regions from 1980 until 2012. Empirical results showed that temperature increase and rainfall shortages had negative long-run effects on olive production, across regions, over the last three decades. Later on, some papers have adopted the same model to study climate change impacts on food security in African countries (Kinda, 2017; Singh, 2018). However, the main shortage of this model is that it has not studied the four dimensions of food security

The present work reports the impact of the climatic changes on the FS in fifty-four developing countries belonging to Africa, Asia and Latin America, in the period range between 1960-2014, but using the dynamic panel data. The dispersion of the FS corresponding to the CC was verified in order to carry out the econometric study. Furthermore, five variables were taken into account for the estimation of the impact on the FS; (i) CC, (ii) Democracy, (iii) Population Growth (PG), (iv) vulnerability prices (VULP) and (v) the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The obtained results were deeply studied in order to analyze, evaluate and interpret the effect of the investigated variables of the FS.

2. METHODOLOGICAL ANALYSES

It was considered the model presented in the following heterogeneous dynamic Panel:

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \lambda_i y_{i,t-1} + \beta_i' X_{i,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t} \quad (1)$$

Where (i) is the individuals, (t) denotes the time dimension, (α) is a constant indicating the shape of the curve, (λ) is the coefficient associated to the past of the exogenous variable, (β') is a coefficient relative to the quadratic term and (ε) is the error term.

*Address correspondence to this author at University of Gabès Higher Institute of Management of Gabès Email: hzouhair2000@yahoo.fr

The long-term effect was calculated as follows:

$$\theta_i = \frac{\beta_i}{1 - \lambda_i} \tag{2}$$

With, $\beta = E(\beta_i); \lambda = E(\lambda_i); \theta = E(\theta_i) = E\left(\frac{\beta_i}{1 - \lambda_i}\right)$

Assuming the heterogeneity of coefficients ($\beta_i \neq \beta; \lambda_i \neq \lambda$) the fixed effect estimators are not consistent. This non-convergence is due to the emergence of the next composed error:

$$\omega_{it} = (\beta_i - \beta)x_{it} + (\lambda_i - \lambda)y_{it-1} + u_{it} \tag{3}$$

The presence of a serial correlation between $x_{i,t}$, allows the identification of heterogeneity bias that affects the quality of estimators. Indeed, Pesaran and Shin (1995) consider the case where $x_{i,t}$ is generated by an autoregressive process of order 1, which reads as follows:

$$x_{i,t} = \mu_i(1 - \phi) + \phi x_{i,t-1} + u_{i,t} \tag{4}$$

With $E(x_{i,t}) = \mu$ and $u_{i,t} \rightarrow iid(0, \delta_i^2)$. When $\rho \rightarrow 1$, that is to say $x_{i,t}$ tends to be integrated of order 1, the probability limits of fixed effect estimators ($\hat{\beta}, \hat{\lambda}$) when $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $T \rightarrow \infty$ are given by:

$$p \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 1} \hat{\beta} = 0; \quad p \lim_{\rho \rightarrow 1} \hat{\lambda} = 1 \tag{5}$$

This result shows that the estimators ($\hat{\beta}, \hat{\lambda}$) do not converge to their true value but to the long-term estimator, $\hat{\theta} = \frac{\hat{\beta}}{1 - \hat{\lambda}}$ the asymptotic bias is zero, it is not a problem

since the respective bias of the numerator and denominator tend to cancel each other. At this level, the use of the estimator of the group average that is convergent for large values of N and T.

In fact, the idea of Pesaran and Smith is to transform at first the short-term coefficients into random coefficients.

$$\beta_i = \beta + \eta_{1i}; \lambda_i = \lambda + \eta_{2i} \tag{6}$$

In a second step, the long-term coefficients are processed as follows:

$$\psi_i = \frac{\lambda_i}{1 - \lambda_i} = \psi + \varepsilon_{1,i} \tag{7}$$

$$\theta_i = \frac{\beta_i}{1 - \lambda_i} = \theta + \varepsilon_{2,i} \tag{8}$$

With: $\eta_{1,i}, \eta_{2,i}, \varepsilon_{1,i}$ and $\varepsilon_{2,i}$ are all terms of zero expectation errors and of constant variance. Finally the estimator of the average of the groups $\hat{\theta}_{MG}$ and θ is given by:

$$\theta_{MG} = N^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\hat{\beta}_i}{1 - \hat{\lambda}_i} \tag{9}$$

With $\hat{\beta}_i$ and $\hat{\lambda}_i$ are individual fixed effects estimators.

An extension was made by Pesaran, Shin and Smith (1999) who suggested the estimator pooled mean group (PMG below). This estimator is built under the assumption of heterogeneity of short-term coefficients and long-term homogeneity of slope coefficients (Pesaran et al. 1999).

The estimate is based on the ARDL model (autoregressive distributed lag) of (p1,q1) order as follows:

$$\Delta y_{it} = \phi_i y_{i,t-1} + \beta_i x_{i,t} + \sum_{j=1}^{p_i-1} \Psi_{i,j} \Delta y_{i,t-j} + \sum_{j=1}^{q_i-1} \delta_{i,j} \Delta x_{i,t-j} + \alpha_i + \varepsilon_{i,t} \tag{10}$$

Where $y_{i,t}$ is the dependent variable, $x_{i,t}$ the vector of explanatory variables, α_i is a coefficient that captures the country specificity, Ψ_{ij} and $\delta_{i,t}$ represent the short-term dynamic coefficients for each country and $\varepsilon_{i,t}$ is the error term of the model.

The PMG estimator is based on a panel modeling of ARDL model, which can be written as an error correction model.

The basic equation is based on the following dynamic panel data modeling:

$$FS_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \lambda_i FS_{i,t-1} + \beta_{1i} VULCS_{i,t} + \beta_{2i} VULPRICE_{i,t} + \omega_{1i} EG_{i,t} + \omega_{2i} POPGROWTH_{i,t} + \omega_{3i} DEMOCRACIE_{i,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t} \tag{11}$$

Where :

- FS is the measure of the FS that touches the component of food availability per capita. We use the offer of food per capita as a food safety measurement. This measure is calculated as the sum of production and trade balance of food, we deduct the value of any use other than human consumption. In our work, the foods used are: corn, millet, rice, sorghum, soybean, sugar and wheat. The offer of food is obtained by an arithmetic average of the offers of selected foods expressed in kcal / person / year.
- VULCS is the variable of CC measured as the average Height of rainfall (mm per year). Average precipitation in depth is the long-term average (in space and time) of annual precipitation in the country. Precipitation is defined as any kind of water that falls from clouds as a liquid or a solid. This

Table 1. Descriptive statistics: Total Sample.

	POPGROWTH	VULPRICE	EG	FS	DEMOCRATIE	VULCS
MEAN	2.421768	1.617762	0.017005	34.81995	0.161013	736.3943
MEDIAN	2.508115	1.446622	0.020681	33.00000	-2.000000	322.0000
MAXIMUM	11.18066	6.563665	1.037997	404.0000	10.0000	3240.000
MINIMUM	-6.342817	0.128566	-1.049744	0.000000	-10.00000	5.000000
STD. DEV.	1.112806	0.931232	0.064293	27.90685	273.2164	959.1257
SKEWNESS	0.935466	1.084903	-0.556967	3.533400	6.998247	1.419150
KURTOSIS	13.44311	4.527617	66.51142	40.64178	50.01020	3.489281
JARQUE-BERA	13929.16	568.0284	455780.2	72303.16	271260.8	217.4070
PROBABILITY	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000

Table 2. Descriptive statistics: Asia.

	DEMOCRATIE	FS	EG	VULPRICE	VULCS	POPGROWTH
MEAN	-0.996416	39.45455	0.028042	1.586293	1151.300	2.570305
MEDIAN	-2.000000	36.00000	0.028682	1.417479	361.0000	2.506545
MAXIMUM	10.00000	404.0000	1.037997	4.964836	2875.000	11.18066
MINIMUM	-10.00000	2.000000	-1.049744	0.147126	25.00000	-0.190972
STD. DEV.	7.067511	40.26778	0.096973	0.913148	1239.710	1.203566
SKEWNESS	0.127707	5.195527	-0.282101	0.774009	0.404826	2.050879
KURTOSIS	1.381334	42.53348	58.33284	3.298253	1.237338	13.05299
JARQUE-BERA	62.43362	16847.94	68513.17	43.07875	18.81257	2971.737
PROBABILITY	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000082	0.000000

variable was derived from the data base of the World Bank.

- VULPRICE is the vulnerability to shocks in food prices using the procedure developed by Combes and al. (2012). To calculate the vulnerability index, we use the technique of principal component analysis (PCA) using three variables; (i) the share of food imports in total consumption of households, (ii) the ratio of imports of foodstuffs to total imports of goods and services and (iii) the reverse of the level of GDP per capita. We use the reverse of the level of GDP per capita to be assured that the level of development is negatively correlated to the degree of vulnerability to food price shocks. We normalize the index so that it will vary between 0 and 10. Higher values corresponding to high levels of vulnerability.
- EG is explained by the GDP is the variable related to income: GDP per capita. Data are expressed in dollars. This variable was derived from the data base of the World Bank;

- POP is the growth rate of the population. This variable was derived from the data base of the World Bank;

- Democratie is the variable related to democracy. This variable is measured by the democracy index and the index of autocracy (Polity 2), and on a scale of +10 (democracy) to -10 (autocracy). Polity on the findings of the level of democracy of a State is based on an assessment of elections in that State in terms of competition, openness and level of participation. This variable was taken from the Polity IV data base: Individual Country Trends Regime, 1946-2013.

3. DATA AND DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

The objective of this work consists to validate the impact of climatic shocks on the FS in 54 developing countries. The study period runs from 1960 to 2014. The main feature of our sample is its heterogeneity in the level of FS, climate and economic growth (EG). To overcome this heterogeneity, we will appeal to the modeling dynamic panel data. The estima-

Table 3. Descriptive statistics: African Countries.

	POPGROWTH	VULPRICE	EG	FS	DEMOCRATIE	VULCS
MEAN	2.664870	1.974589	0.012873	34.93721	-2.801109	363.6716
MEDIAN	2.677820	1.792177	0.016627	33.00000	-5.000000	220.0000
MAXIMUM	11.03389	6.563665	0.315742	98.00000	9.000000	2526.000
MINIMUM	-6.342817	0.128566	-0.648605	0.000000	-9.000000	5.000000
STD. DEV.	1.067503	0.965887	0.058577	23.95080	5.622049	493.6007
SKEWNESS	0.666019	0.989164	-1.126300	0.391725	0.719160	2.941499
KURTOSIS	18.70891	4.559267	18.20068	2.433077	2.033842	13.19396
JARQUE-BERA	16517.84	228.9521	14000.82	24.82166	37165.81	1968.229
PROBABILITY	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000	0.000004	0.000000	0.000000

Table 4. Descriptive statistics: Latin America.

	POPGROWTH	VULPRICE	EG	FS	DEMOCRATIE	VULCS
MEAN	1.959390	0.962001	0.017776	30.74074	4.521818	1219.600
MEDIAN	2.000815	0.881646	0.022386	29.00000	8.000000	630.0000
MAXIMUM	3.813362	2.691368	0.150424	96.00000	10.00000	3240.000
MINIMUM	-0.064118	0.272250	-0.153098	0.000000	-9.000000	30.00000
STD. DEV.	0.758082	0.399359	0.039346	22.26474	6.309451	1207.112
SKEWNESS	-0.279986	0.844227	-1.013842	0.627953	-1.100991	0.513778
KURTOSIS	2.751029	3.964173	5.781845	2.951282	2.586371	1.602294
JARQUE-BERA	8.606461	74.50749	266.6287	14.21707	115.0373	15.04727
PROBABILITY	0.013525	0.000000	0.000000	0.000818	0.000000	0.000540

tion will be made by the most advanced techniques of group averages of Pesaran and Smith (1995)¹.

The examination of descriptive statistics illustrated in the Tab.1-4 reveals that Asia continent has the better FS level in term of the food availability. In fact, the average of the FS variable is equal to 39.45 against 30.74 in the Latin American zone with the lowest value. While Africa can be considered as the most vulnerable zone corresponding to the food prices volatility. Indeed, the results show that Africa has the highest average index compared to other regions, particularly to the Latin America. Furthermore, it should be noticed that the African zone has the poorest conditions. In fact, for example the rain average is around 363 mm, while the Latin American zone has the highest value (1219 mm)².

The results have show that the Asian zone possesses the best performance in terms of real growth per capita. Its annual growth rate is about 2.8% while the African zone shows the lowest growth rate (1.2%). Indeed, the Latin American zone seems to be the most democratic region basing on the average index which was found to be equal to about 4.52. However, the African zone is the region characterized by autocracy, posting an average index of -2.80.

4. CORRELATION ANALYSIS

The correlation matrix was calculated in order to estimate the relationship between the FS and the CC and between the economic growth rate (EG) and the food supply (FSP), in the studied zones. The analysis did not show a significant correlation between the mentioned terms. Tab.5-8 show the obtained results of the calculations.

¹Pesaran, M.H. and R.P.Smith(1995), «Estimating Long-Run Relationships Heterogeneous Panels », *Journal of Econometrics*, 68, pp. 70-113

²Data from Changi Climate Station

Table 5. Correlation Matrix: Total Sample.

	POPGROWTH	EG	FS	VULCS	DEMOCRATIE
POPGROWTH	1	-0,37	0,02	-0,16	-0,12
EG	-0,37	1	-0,10	0,17	0,21
FS	0,02	-0,10	1	-0,09	-0,20
CS	-0,16	0,17	-0,09	1	0,27
DEMOCRATIE	-0,12	0,21	-0,20	0,27	1

Table 6. CorrelationMatrix: Asia.

	POPGROWTH	EG	VULPRICE	FS	VULCS	DEMOCRATIE
POPGROWTH	1,000	0,002	0,108	-0,064	0,005	-0,007
EG	0,002	1,000	0,682	-0,178	-0,194	-0,537
VULPRICE	0,108	0,682	1,000	-0,012	-0,162	-0,575
FS	-0,064	-0,178	-0,012	1,000	-0,138	-0,088
CS	0,005	-0,194	-0,162	-0,138	1,000	0,143
DEMOCRATIE	-0,007	-0,537	-0,575	-0,088	0,143	1,000

Table 7. Correlationmatrix: Latin America.

	EG	POPGROWTH	VULPRICE	DEMOCRATIE	FS	VULCS
EG	1,00	-0,43	-0,37	0,20	-0,07	0,29
POPGROWTH	-0,43	1,00	0,14	-0,24	0,10	0,28
VULPRICE	-0,37	0,14	1,00	-0,27	0,20	-0,15
DEMOCRATIE	0,20	-0,24	-0,27	1,00	-0,41	0,00
FS	-0,07	0,10	0,20	-0,41	1,00	-0,12
CS	0,29	0,28	-0,15	0,00	-0,12	1,00

Table 8. Correlationmatrix: Africa.

	POPGROWTH	EG	FS	DEMOCRATIE	VULCS	VULPRICE
POPGROWTH	1,00	-0,61	0,06	0,08	0,19	0,07
EG	-0,61	1,00	-0,21	-0,11	-0,19	0,12
FS	0,06	-0,21	1,00	0,34	-0,07	0,01
DEMOCRATIE	0,08	-0,11	0,34	1,00	0,19	-0,19
CS	0,19	-0,19	-0,07	0,19	1,00	0,03
VULPRICE	0,07	0,12	0,01	-0,19	0,03	1,00

It can be noted that the EG is negatively correlated to the POPGROWTH while it is positively correlated to the Democratic variable. One can say that less the zone is populated and democratic more the EG is high. The variable related to

CC is positively correlated with democracy (+0.21): The Democratic countries in our sample are characterized by higher values of average precipitation.

The analysis of the variables by zone shows that Asia is characterized by a positive correlation between the vulnerability of food prices to the GDP per capita while the Latin America shows a negative correlation. The African zone shows a positive correlation between the FSP and the democracy.

Fig. (1-4) summarize the correlation between the FSP and the CC. It is clear that, each was the zone the FS and CC are negatively correlated, except the African countries. The zone of the Latin America shows the most negative slope on the linear regression.

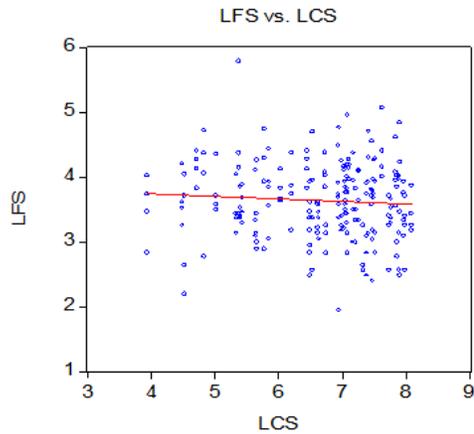


Fig. (1). Scatter of the FS versus the CC: Total sample.

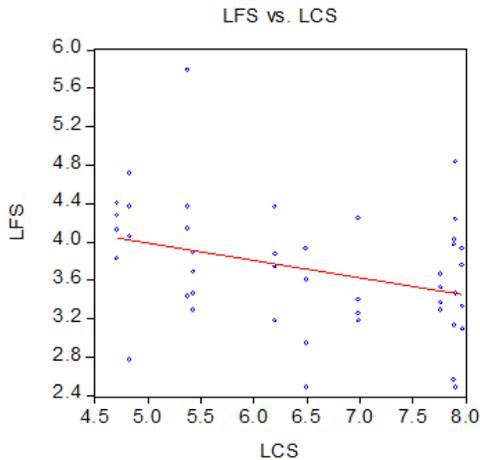


Fig. (2). The FS scatter versus the CC: Asia.

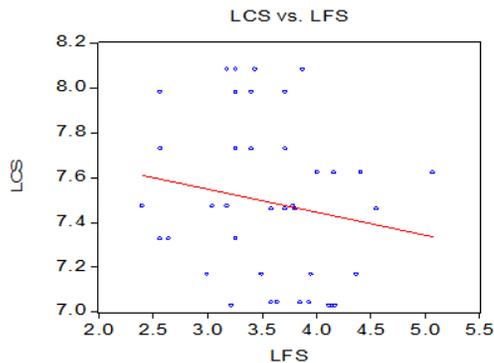


Fig. (3). The FS Scatter versus the CC: Latin America.

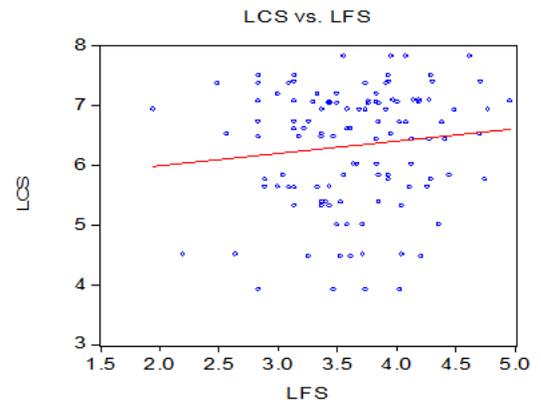


Fig. (4). FS Scatter versus the CC: Africa.

5. EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS AND ESTIMATION RESULTS

Knowing that the average technical groups are very significant and effective in the case of the dynamic panel, they were used for the estimation of the equations in the total sample and in each zone (Asia, Africa and Latin America). A comparative study was made between the different effects of the CC and the vulnerability on the food prices and on the FS.

Table 9. Estimation results by the method of equation group's average (1) Total sample.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Std. Dev</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.098***	0.037	2.66
<i>EG</i>	7.975***	1.18	7.13
<i>Popgrowth</i>	-14.81***	0.96	-15.31
<i>Democratie</i>	0.014	0.01	1.46
<i>Cc</i>	-0.0047***	0.0004	-10.00
<i>Constant</i>	131.15***	0.0004	-10.09

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 10. Estimation Results by the Method of Equation Group's Average (2) Total Sample.

	COEFFICIENT	STD. DEV	T-STUDENT
FS	0.328***	0.02	11.23
EG	4.16***	0.97	4.27
POPGROWTHI	-1.503	7.63	-0.19
DEMOCRATIE	0.003	0.002	1.35
VULPRICE	-2.48***	0.30	-8.15
CS	-0.053***	0.001	41.83
CONSTANT	138.33	94.16	1.46

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 11. Estimation Results by the Method of Equation Group’s Average(1) Asian Region.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Std. Dev</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.238**	0.11	2.03
<i>EG</i>	6.05***	1.32	4.46
<i>Popgrowth</i>	-2.01***	0.287	-7.01
<i>Democratie</i>	1.34*	0.847	1.69
<i>CS</i>	-0.012***	0.00081	-14.83
<i>Constant</i>	515.80***	103.89	4.69

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 12. Results of Estimates by the Method of Equation Group’s Average (2) Asian Region.

	COEFFICIENT	STD. DEV	T-STUDENT
FS	0.408***	0.08	5.06
EG	3.39***	0.58	5.78
POPGROWTHI	-0.49	1.50	-0.32
DEMOCRATIE	0.69	0.47	1.46
VULPRICE	-0.20***	0.034	-5.86
CS	-0.0007*	0.0039	-1.77
CONSTANT	50.88	45.76	1.11

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 13. Estimation Results by the Method of Equation Group’s Average (1) African Region.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Ecartype</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.282***	0.044	6.28
<i>Eg</i>	0.44***	0.029	14.70
<i>Popgrowth</i>	-0.72***	0.109	-6.66
<i>Democratie</i>	0.008	0.0108	0.74126
<i>CS</i>	-0.079*	0.033	-2.39
<i>Constant</i>	-180.36***	15.41	-11.69

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 14. Estimation results by the method of equation group’s average (2) African Region.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Ecartype</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.192***	0.058	3.30
<i>EG</i>	0.622***	0.054	11.14

<i>Popgrowtht</i>	-0.42***	0.028	-15.25
<i>Democratie</i>	0.008	0.01	0.74
<i>Vulprice</i>	-0.216***	0.024	-8.72
<i>CS</i>	-0.174***	0.018	-9.68
<i>Constant</i>	25.03***	2.19	11.39

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 15. Estimation Results by the Method of Equation Group’s Average (1) Latin America Region.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Ecartype</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.538***	0.167	3.22
<i>EG</i>	2.12***	0.722	2.93
<i>Popgrowth</i>	-3.79***	0.762	-4.97
<i>Democratie</i>	0.287	0.334	0.39
<i>CS</i>	-0.002***	0.0003	-7.39
<i>Constant</i>	28.40	63.71	0.44

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

Table 16. Estimation Results by Method of Equation Group’s Average (2) Latin America Region.

	<i>Coefficient</i>	<i>Ecartype</i>	<i>T-student</i>
<i>FS</i>	0.392**	0.167	2.33
<i>EG</i>	3.70***	0.105	35.17
<i>Popgrowth</i>	12.38	9.03	1.37
<i>Democratie</i>	-0.439	1.67	-0.262
<i>Vulprice</i>	-0.164***	0.01	-14.99
<i>CS</i>	-0.004***	0.0005	-8.28
<i>Constant</i>	7.65	94.16	0.08

***, ** and * denote significance at respective rates of 1, 5 and 10%.

The above tables show the results of estimates of basic equation (1) and this is according to the average method of groups. The results show that the variable coefficients are highly significant except for the variable democracy.

The variable related to the supply of food delayed for a period, shows positive and statistically significant impacts: a country that has increased its supply of food goods at time t-1 given, exhibits a higher supply at time t.

The results show that the economic development level exhibits a positive and statistically significant impact on the variable supply of food, for all the regions. These results can be explained by the fact that the level of development reduces constraints to household access to food goods. In addition, a better economic development does not only increase investment in the food sector, Smith and Hadded (2000). However,

the level of economic development increases the availability of food goods at national level and by importing more food. The results show that the Asian region has the highest impact of economic growth on FS. However, the African region has the lowest ratio since this region has not achieved good economic performance.

Our results confirm the thesis recognized by Merrick (2002) who found that the growth of the higher population is exacerbating the food supply by adopting inappropriate policies related to FS. Indeed, population growth is increasing the proportion of non-nourished population.

Regarding the variable related to democracy, it shows statistically not significant coefficients. This result was expected, given that most countries in our sample are characterized by an autocratic regime. Indeed, democracy can act on FS through economic growth, openness to trade, investment and human capital. (Pindick (1994), and Siroën Granger (2002), by Mankiw, Romer and Weil (1992) and Taveres and Wacziarg (1997)).

Regarding the volatility of rainfall, it shows negative and statistically significant coefficients on the FS variable. The extent of this negative impact is higher for the African region which is characterized by levels of the lowest rainfall compared to other regions. According to Davis et al (2007) and World Bank (2006), between 60 and 100% of resident households in African countries, work in the agricultural sector. This makes the African region a region more vulnerable to rainfall volatility relative to other regions. The predominance of agricultural production from rain-fed crops is highly sensitive to the volatility of rainfall.

The negative impact is explained by the fact that the rainfall volatility reduced agricultural output and household incomes. Similarly, the so-called volatility may reduce the proportion of fertile land and lower the performance of crop yields (Schmidhuber and Tubiello (2007)). In the same vein, poor weather conditions can have adverse effects on food production and availability.

The variable related to vulnerability to price shocks appears to have a negative and statistically significant impact on the dependent variable. These results can be explained by the fact that vulnerable countries have little fiscal space and administrative capacity to protect their people against CCs ((de Janvry and Sadoulet (2008)). Indeed, the policy instruments that are available to facilitate access to food goods by increasing production or imports of agricultural goods are limited or ineffective.

The volatile CC reduces productivity and the supply of the majority of existing food and increases the proportion of the population that is already vulnerable to food insecurity. A country whose temperature levels are volatile (higher or lower) could in some cases be detrimental to the populations of certain regions. Vulnerability to CCs has an effect at the level of individual farms with the biophysical effects of this phenomenon on plants and animals. CC can have negative effects on local FS, and that, by making changes to local food prices.

Similarly, CC and volatile levels of precipitation can have significant effects on food productivity by causing different diseases of crops. The volatile CC should accentuate erratic

rainfall, which is already harming livelihoods and production of a large number of rural families.

Another point to report showing that households are not all exposed to the same risks for FS. Vulnerability to food insecurity may be due to other external factors: biophysical and socioeconomic factors that impact on nutrition: the poor are more exposed to the impacts of CC leading to a deterioration of the social and economic situation. CC affects more negatively the situation of people who have few resources and low income prospects, like small farmers and the landless rural women as well as the children of people living in rural areas. In the same vein, the majority of the poor are in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, which are vulnerable to food insecurity linked to CC. These regions are characterized by a weak social safety net. In some parts of Sub-Saharan Africa face risks related to changing and unstable climate, particularly droughts.

CONCLUSION

In this work, we examined the effects of climatic shocks on FS in the case of 54 developing countries over the period 1960-2014. View the heterogeneity observed in our sample, we used the average of the technical group proposed by Pesaran and Smith (1995) to overcome the heterogeneity bias. The results show that the rainfall is a volatility factor of food insecurity in developing countries. African countries appear to be the most vulnerable to CCs. Moreover, these same countries are also the most vulnerable to shocks in food goods prices.

FS can be defined as the capacity of all people to sufficient, healthy and nutritive food the physical and economic access. However, Agriculture, Food and Environment, these three words cannot be separated as the interdependencies reinforce in a world where everything is connected, everything speeds up and everything changes. The power issue is still essential because it is at the heart of human activity. In a world where natural resources suffer from the CC and population pressures, agricultural production has to deal increasingly with the imperative of quality

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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